

No. 5027

NEW YORK,

July 30

19 29

5

THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK 1-8

FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH
FIFTH AVENUE AT TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

Curt Van Boetticher, Esq.

\$39,225.⁶⁹/₁₀₀

Thirty-nine thousand two hundred twenty-five ⁶⁹/₁₀₀ DOLLARS

ELDER COIN & CURIO CORP'N

Procs of D. G. A. Lawrence
Sale of Coins

Jos. L. Elder

PRES. & TREAS.

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Jos. L. Elder

PRES. & TREAS.

No. 5035

NEW YORK,

Aug 1

19 29

5

THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK 1-8

FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH
FIFTH AVENUE AT TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

W. H. Austin

\$2,596.⁷⁶/₁₀₀

Two thousand five hundred ninety-six ⁷⁶/₁₀₀ DOLLARS

ELDER COIN & CURIO CORP'N

Proc. Dr. Lawrence
Coin Sale

Jos. L. Elder

PRES. & TREAS.

ELDER COIN & CURIO
CORP'N

8-10 WEST 37TH STREET

No. 5035

NEW YORK, *Aug 1* 19 *27*

5

THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK ¹⁻⁸

FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH
FIFTH AVENUE AT TWENTY-FOURTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

W. H. Austin

\$ *2596.* ^{*76*}/_{*100*}

Two thousand five hundred ninety six

^{*76*}/_{*100*} DOLLARS

ELDER COIN & CURIO CORP'N

*Acc. Dr. Lawrence
Cam Sale*

Jas. Lee

PRES. & TREAS.

ELDER COIN & CURIO
CORP'N
8-10 WEST 37TH STREET

No. 5027

NEW YORK,

July 30

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THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH
FIFTH AVENUE AT TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

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\$ 39,225. ⁶⁹/₁₀₀

Thirty nine thousand two hundred twenty five

DOLLARS

ELDER COIN & CURIO CORP'N

*Procees of Dr. G. A. Lawrence
Sale of Coins*

Jos. L. Elder

PRES. & TREAS.

ELDER COIN & CURIO
CORP'N
8-10 WEST 37TH STREET

No. 5035

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FIFTH AVENUE BRANCH
FIFTH AVENUE AT TWENTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y.

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

W. H. Austin

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DOLLARS

ELDER COIN & CURIO CORP'N

*Acct. Dr. Lawrence
Coin Sale*

Jos. L. Elder

PRES. & TREAS.

Wm. H. AUSTIN,
President

Murray Hill 9460-1

E. O. AUSTIN,
Transfer Tax Specialist

ASTOR AUDIT & APPRAISAL CORPORATION

342 MADISON AVENUE

(AT 43rd STREET)

NEW YORK

Specialists In Appraisals For

ESTATE TAX PROCEEDINGS

STATE and FEDERAL

Real Estate

Leaseholds

Personal Property

of all kinds

Business Interests

Closely Held Stocks

Unlisted Securities

Obsolete Securities

January 17, 1929.

Mr. Thomas Elder,
8 West 37th St.,
New York, N. Y.

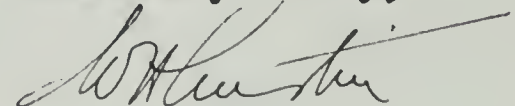
Dear Mr. Elder:

I am sending you herewith check for \$75.
in accordance with your bill.

I saw the books this morning and other property of the estate and they don't amount to much. The coins constitute almost the entire value of the estate. I mention this to you because we shall not be able to get a very large fee out of it. I wish, therefore, that you will be able to make this price include your services for appraising the balance of the coins, which were spoken about when we were at the bank. I will let you know further about this.

I am going to try my very best to have the sale go to you and you and I will make arrangements ^{relative} thereto. From time to time I am sure we will be able to work together to our mutual advantage. I have experts in various lines who work with me ⁱⁿ just this way.

Yours very truly,



WHA:M
Encl.

Feb. 13, 1929

Ashton & Ashton.

Gentlemen.

Referring to the Lawrence Coin cataloguing.

The commission will depend on the grouping of the coins. If a 20% commission is charged I can afford to spread out the collection more. If 15% it will have to be put into fewer lots because no lot should bring under \$5.00 in order to cover my bare expenses.

I got 25% commission full from the estate of H.C. Miller for the big catalog I gave you and 25% full from Prof. Titchener's estate.

From this and especially if plates are desired for this sale the charge would be more than 15%. 17-1/2% would be the least and make plates and do the collection a good spread out and it is well worth it.

I am enclosing bill for my appraisal, \$30, which is very low, Mr. Ashton as I spent 3 times the work on the last 3 sessions that I did on the first session at the Harriman Bank. Let me know any developments. I am anxious to begin the catalog but want a month's vacation at least to prepare for the rigorous work. Address me as advised today.

Yours truly,

ASTOR AUDIT & APPRAISAL CORPORATION

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Real Estate

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Closely Held Stocks

Unlisted Securities

Obsolete Securities

February 15th, 1929.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
c/o S. C. Yates,
Tryon, North Carolina.

Dear Mr. Elder:

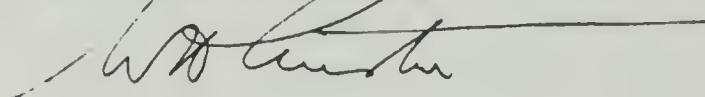
I am sending you herewith check for \$30.00, in payment for the services rendered on the last three ~~assessments~~ *sessions*.

I received, today, the Woodin papers, and shall keep them carefully for you until you return to New York.

You need not worry about proving your qualifications or your responsibility. You leave that to me. I have handled very large matters for this concern (one estate in particular of \$10,000,000), and one of the principle men in that office has confidence in me and anyone I recommend.

Wishing both you and your wife much benefit to your health from the vacation, I am

Very truly yours,



WHA:PR

Wm. H. AUSTIN,
President

Murray Hill 9460-1

E. O. AUSTIN,
Transfer Tax Specialist

ASTOR AUDIT & APPRAISAL CORPORATION

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ESTATE TAX PROCEEDINGS

STATE and FEDERAL

Business Interests

Closely Held Stocks

Unlisted Securities

Obsolete Securities

March 13, 1929.

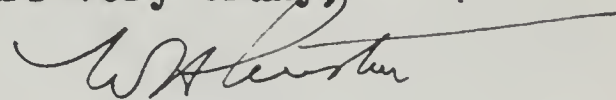
Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
c/o Agent of Southern Railway Co.,
Tryon, N. Carolina.

My dear Mr. Elder:

I received your letter of the 10th instant and would prefer to talk about the arrangements that we shall have to make when you come home, instead of by correspondence. I might say, however, that there will be nothing secret about the arrangements that you and I make. It is perfectly proper that if I bring you any business that I should share in your commission and the people that I do business with will so understand, and they will be only too glad to have me make some money as compensation for my services.

We are about ready to start now, so just as soon as you get to New York come and see me and we will make definite arrangements.

Yours very truly,



WHA:M

Wm. H. AUSTIN,
President

Murray Hill 9460-1

E. O. AUSTIN,
Transfer Tax Specialist

ASTOR AUDIT & APPRAISAL CORPORATION

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Obsolete Securities

March 19, 1929.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
c/o Agent of Southern Railway Co.,
Tryon, N. Carolina.

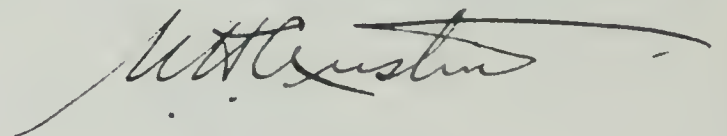
Dear Mr. Elder:

I suppose that when you get back to New York you will be very fit. I am getting anxious to see you.

We are ready to start now with the auction and just as soon as you get back you can make arrangements with me about the sale. I have just completed the arrangements to sell the other property of the estate and the sale will take place next week.

Give my regards to Mrs. Elder and drop me a note and let me know when you will be home.

Yours very truly,



WHA:M

March 27, 1929.

William H. Austin, Esq.,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Re: Estate of George Alfred Lawrence.

Dear Mr. Austin:

In reference to our several conferences regarding the sale by public auction of the collection of coins of the above estate, I hereby agree to pay you for introducing me to the persons who are in control of the matter and procuring me as the cataloguer and seller of said coins by public auction, $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the gross amount realized at the sale, if I am successful in making an agreement with them by which I shall receive 20% of the gross amount realized on the sale; and in the event that I shall be successful in only receiving $17\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the gross amount, then I am to pay you for your services as aforesaid 4% of the gross. I am to pay you this amount within thirty (30) or thirty-two (32) days after the completion of the sale.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Cedar

Witness
Minerva H. Weigert

In Re Estate of Geo. Alfred Lawrence. March 28th, 1929.

Messrs O'Brien, Boardman, Fox Memhard and Early,

39 Broadway, New York City, NY.

Attention of Mr. Harold G. Wentworth.

Gentlemen:

At the suggestion of Mr. W.H. Austin, of the Astor Audit and Appraisal Corporation, with whom I cooperated in the appraisal of the Coin Collection of the above Estate, I write to ask if you will be so good as to consider me for the medium through which the Collection is to be sold at public auction to collectors of the country.

I feel that I am especially well fitted for this work, as I have been practically all of my life engaged in the coin business, for over thirty five years and have held over 200 public sales of coins for estates and collectors, commencing with the year 1903 and continuing unbrokenly to the present time, and I consider myself the leading cataloguer and seller of these collections in the country.

This collection will make a very interesting sale, and as such would attract the most important collectors both here and in Canada, and most of whom I am personally acquainted with. It might interest you to know that with my good knowledge of supply and demand and of the coin market I feel certain that four of the coins in the collection would bring over Ten Thousand Dollars. Furthermore there are quite a few more coins in the collection which would bring some hundreds

of dollars apiece. There is one fifty dollar gold piece in the collection which I sold myself once for over seventeen hundred dollars. in one of these sales of ours. It is unlikely that ten years later it would sell for less, the chances being it will bring considerably more at the present time.

The regular charges for cataloguing and selling such collections range from 20 to 25%. For several of my sales I have got 25% from estates. In this case, due to the high grade of some of the pieces I am willing to offer it for 20% commission. This commission is 20% of the gross prices at the sale and covers all expenses of offering and selling. We distribute 1500 catalogues all over the country, and the numerous other expenses of printing, advertising, auctioneers, book-keepers and the like shall be borne by us, which greatly simplifies matters from the standpoint of the estate in the matter of book-keeping. In other words I am paid this commission on what the lots actually bring at the sale.. Printing charges are huge nowadays and the expense of holding such a sale amounts to several thousand dollars. We will assume full responsibility for the collection of all accounts, and for the safety of the collection at the sale.

If you would prefer to retain possession of the gold coins or any part of the gold coins between the time of cataloguing the date of the sale this would be satisfactory to us, in fact it would relieve us somewhat. We would agree to catalog the gold coins in your presence and under your observation, and as this part of the work is the easiest to do of any we would think it might be completed in a couple of days, reducing the hardship or inconvenience of a long session of work.

I am willing we shall give you a receipt for the balance of the collection, and after cataloguing the same would be more than

pleased to turn that portion also over to you to hold until near the time of the sale. For the purposes of checking and arranging we would have to have that portion in our hands at least a week prior to the sale. We find we have to arrange the collections in this way. But we wont insist about the gold, you may retain that right up until the date of the sale if wanted..

Our more important sales were The Peter Gschwend, held 1908, the James B. Wilson, of NY. Held 1909, The Wm. H. Woodin, held 1911, the Peter Mougey of Cincinnati, held 1910, the L. C. Gehring Sale held about 1917, and the H. C. Miller sales, two of them held in 1916, during Mr. Miller's Lifetime, and after his death in 1920. He was connected with Goodbody & Co. Brokers, downtown.

I refer you to Cortland Betts, member of the old law firm of Shearman & Sterling, 55 Wall Street, NY of whom James V. Beck was then a member; R. Jerome Mullin, Atty, of Brooklyn, for the Gehring Estate, from whom I hold a fine letter of reference after that sale. Wm. H. Woodin, Prest. of the Am. Car & Fdy Co. 165 Broadway, for whom I have sold \$37,000.00 worth of coins in 1910 and 1911, and who has since recommended me several times.

Hon. Jos. Buffington, U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Philada, Pa.

Elliott Smith, V. prest. Candee Smith & Howland Co. NY.

Foot E. 26th St. Mr. Smith is a son of late Gen. Geo. V. Smith at one time Police Commissioner of NY City. & Lt. Col. of 7th Regt.

V. T. Hammer, Prest. of the Branford Malleable Iron Work Branford, Conn who has known me for 20 years or more.

Mr. Storm, I think Asst Cashier, Nat'l City Bank, 28th St. & 5th Ave, NY where I have had an account since coming to NY in 1904.

These among others. You must admit the reference is gilt-edged.

I am furthermore willing to go under bond if necessary to guarantee my honest and careful performance of the work of selling the collectio

In order to gain the interest of all of the collectors in the

country, it is necessary that the catalog be gotten out in sufficient time so as to enable us to get bids from the most distant points of the United States and Canada. For this and other reasons, it is imperative that work be started on the catalog as early as can possibly be done. If we should be obliged to wait another 30 days before getting started we would be presented with two alternatives, viz., we would either have to hold the sale close to the date of issuance of the catalog, or else be obliged to run the sale dates into July or August, which are not as desirable months as June. We have found nearly all of the biggest coin sales have been held at the end of June. We would be easily able to hold this sale in June provided we could get started pretty soon. If we delayed too long the sale would have to be carried over until the Fall. Collectors come to NY. in late spring or early summer on their vacations and like to combine their hobby with pleasure and thus take advantage of the June Sales to personally attend.

I shall hope to hear from you soon about this matter and promise you my earnest and conscientious cooperation to realize for the estate the biggest prices to be obtained. I have made many worlds records for coins I might cite \$3,000 for a U.S.\$5 gold piece of 1815, and \$715. for a U.S.Half cent of 1796, made at my sales in the past.

I will get up for you a good catalog and if desired illustrate some of the most valuable coins in some special catalogues, as is done in special cases, although this photographing is not at all imperative in order to realize big prices for coins. and we seldom illustrate special catalogues. Yours respectfully,

Prest. & Treasurer.
Elder Coin and Curio Corporation

MORGAN J. O'BRIEN
ALBERT B. BOARDMAN
LYTTLETON FOX
COUNSEL

PHILIP W. BOARDMAN
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, JR.
ERNEST R. EARLY
ALLEN R. MEMHARD
JOHN VANCE HEWITT
LOUIS C. HAGGERTY
KENNETH O'BRIEN
EDWIN J. FREEDMAN
CHARLES B. FERNALD
LEO P. DORSEY

O'BRIEN, BOARDMAN, FOX, MEMHARD & EARLY

W.H.T. 0660.

39 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

UPTOWN OFFICE
17 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

PARIS
DONALD HARPER
32 AVENUE DE L'OPERA

April 1, 1929.

Elder Coin & Curio Corp.,
8 West 37th Street,
New York, N. Y.

(Attention of Mr. Thomas L. Elder)

Gentlemen:- Re: Estate of G. Alfred Lawrence, Dec'd.

Referring to your letter of March 28, 1929, you are hereby authorized to proceed with the sale of the coin collection constituting part of the estate of G. Alfred Lawrence, deceased, upon the following terms.

1. You are to receive 20% of the gross sum received as a result of the sale, as commission for your services, the net balance to be paid to the estate within five (5) days after the sale; all risks and charges of collection to be borne by you.
2. All cost and expense of the sale, including the preparation and printing of catalogues, advertising, auctioneers, bookkeepers, etc. are to be borne by you.
3. The date of the sale to be fixed before July 1, 1929.

With respect to the possession of the coins, I believe the most convenient plan would be the one suggested by yourself some time ago, that is, that the entire collection be turned over to you upon your furnishing to the estate a bond for twice the appraisal value of the coins. If this does not meet with your present approval, the plan outlined in your letter of the 28th may be followed, although this would entail the necessity of making appointments, at which time a representative of the estate would be present.

If the foregoing is agreeable to you, please sign the copy of this letter and return it to us.

Very truly yours,
ESTATE OF GEORGE ALFRED LAWRENCE

Arthur B. Smith
EXECUTOR

CVB:rm

MORGAN J. O'BRIEN
ALBERT B. BOARDMAN
LYTTLETON FOX
COUNSEL

PHILIP W. BOARDMAN
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, JR.
ERNEST R. EARLY
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O'BRIEN, BOARDMAN, FOX, MEMHARD & EARLY

39 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

UPTOWN OFFICE
17 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

PARIS
DONALD HARPER
32 AVENUE DE L'OPERA

April 16, 1929.

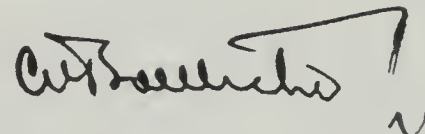
Elder Coin & Curio Corp.,
8 West 37th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:-

Re: Estate of G. Alfred Lawrence, Dec'd.

I am enclosing herewith an application form which has been sent to me by the bonding company, with the request that you sign the same where an X has been marked on the back thereof. I am forwarding it to you in accordance with this request.

Very truly yours,



CVB:rm

MORGAN J. O'BRIEN
ALBERT B. BOARDMAN
LYTTLETON FOX
COUNSEL
PHILIP W. BOARDMAN
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, JR.
ERNEST R. EARLY
ALLEN R. MEMHARD
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O'BRIEN, BOARDMAN, FOX, MEMHARD & EARLY

39 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

UPTOWN OFFICE
17 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

PARIS
DONALD HARPER
32 AVENUE DE L'OPERA

April 17, 1929.

Elder Coin & Curio Corp.,
8 West 27th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:-

Pursuant to your request, we are furnishing you herewith a short biography of Dr. George Alfred Lawrence for use in preparing your catalogue.

Doctor Lawrence was born on June 6, 1869, at Lawrence, California, a settlement named after his forebears. The Lawrence family originally came to America in 1635 and were very prominent in the settlement of California. His interest in the private gold coins of that time may be traced directly to this fact. His scholastic record shows that he was a member of the first class to graduate from the Leland Stanford University. He received his degree of doctor of Michigan at the college of Physicians & Surgeons in 1897. He also held the degrees of Master of Arts, Bachelor of Law and Doctor of Philosophy from Columbia University.

Doctor Lawrence was a life member of the New York Athletic Club, Fencers Club, a member of the Army & Navy Club, Apawamis Country Club and a number of other organizations.

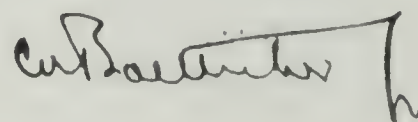
He was a Mason and had completed a number of degrees in masonry and had, I understand, been elected to the highest possible degree, namely, the 33rd. He was a grand ~~secretary~~ of the Knights Templars and held various offices in masonic orders.

He was a Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Medical Reserve. He was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Pioneers of California. He wrote numerous books on his study in medicine, namely, neurology, as well as on masonry and other subjects and he was one of the few Americans who held honorary membership in the Authors Club of London.

Trusting this will give you sufficient data in order to write such introduction to your catalogue as you may desire, I am,

Very truly yours,

CVB:rm



MORGAN J. O'BRIEN
ALBERT B. BOARDMAN
LYTTLETON FOX

COUNSEL

PHILIP W. BOARDMAN
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, JR.
ERNEST R. EARLY
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39 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

UPTOWN OFFICE
17 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

PARIS
DONALD HARPER
32 AVENUE DE L'OPERA

April 20, 1929.

The Elder Coin and Curio Corporation,
8 West 37th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Attention Mr. Elder

Dear Mr. Elder:

I enclose herewith original and duplicate receipt covering the coins which I delivered to you yesterday. Will you please sign the original and return to us at your early convenience.

Very truly yours,

Enc.
CVB/H

CVB

Wm. H. AUSTIN,
President

Murray Hill 9460-1

E. O. AUSTIN,
Transfer Tax Specialist

ASTOR AUDIT & APPRAISAL CORPORATION

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NEW YORK

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of all kinds

— 2 —

Specialists In Appraisals For

ESTATE TAX PROCEEDINGS

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Unlisted Securities

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June 17, 1929.

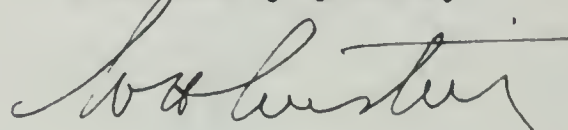
Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
8 West 37th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Elder:

I am returning to you herewith the letters
of recommendation that you handed me sometime ago.

I received the catalogue in the Lawrence
Estate. I congratulate you on the skill and experience
that it reflects in the catalogue.

Sincerely yours,



WHA:M
Encls.

August 2nd, 1929.

Messrs. O'Brien, Boardman, Fox, Menhard and Early,

39 Broadway, NY City. NY.

Gentlemen.

I have to express to you my disappointment and dissatisfaction over one phase of the settlement of the Dr. Geo. Alfred Lawrence Sale of Rare Coins.

The Executor, Mr. von Boetticher I found polite, genial and entirely satisfactory. The terms also of 20% commission were satisfactory to me did I not have to sign under protest an agreement with Mr. W.H. Austin to give him 5-1/2% commission, or over 25% of my entire commission.

As it stood at the end the Estate and Mr. Austin got about \$42,000 or over and I, who had all the hard work, all the responsibility for the conduct of the sale, the making of the catalog, and the responsibility for the collection of the accounts got only \$7,000 which in no wise represents a profit, as I paid all expenses connected therewith, amounting to several thousand dollars.

Had this collection gone to Andersons or the American Art Gallery the Estate would have been lucky to have got \$25,000, instead of nearly \$40,000.

There is no attempt on my part to kick on the 20% commission, my sole complaint is over the demand of Austin, and from his insistence on this commission, which amounted to about \$2500, his stoutly asking for 5-1/2%. I strongly suspect others were in on this 5-1/2%. I was perfectly willing that Austin should have something for his help in turning over this collection to me. There is nothing wrong in my having given him \$500, but \$2500 or over 25% of my entire commission was too good to be true so far as I am concerned, and I think I am entitled to some explanation from your concern, which has had so much to do with the handling of the collection. The most he would do yesterday was to allow me \$100 from the 50 1/2%. This was nothing. I am very much dissatisfied and consider I worked too hard and did the Estate too good service to be so poorly rewarded.

I would like a reply.

Yours truly,

MORGAN J. O'BRIEN
ALBERT B. BOARDMAN
LYTTLETON FOX
COUNSEL
MARTIN CONBOY
PHILIP W. BOARDMAN
MORGAN J. O'BRIEN, JR.
ERNEST R. EARLY
ALLEN R. MEMHARD
JOHN VANCE HEWITT
LOUIS C. HAGGERTY
KENNETH O'BRIEN
CHARLES B. FERNALD
LEO P. DORSEY
BEVERLY R. MYLES
DAVID ASCH

O'BRIEN, BOARDMAN, CONBOY, MEMHARD & EARLY

39 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

UPTOWN OFFICE
17 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

PARIS
DONALD HARPER
32 AVENUE DE L'OPERA

August 8, 1929.

Estate of George A. Lawrence

Thomas L. Elder, Esq.,
8 West 37th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:-

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letters of the 2nd and 6th inst. We are at a loss to know what to say in reply to your letters. Mr. von Boetticher, the executor, contracted with you to conduct the sale of the coins, you to receive a certain fixed percentage as your fee, which was to include advertising, etc. I am informed that you have retained your agreed fee from the proceeds of the sale and have transmitted the net thereof to the Estate. You advise that you also entered into a contract with Mr. W. H. Austin in which you agreed to pay to him a certain percentage of your fee. It seems that your complaint arises out of the last mentioned contract. As attorneys for the Estate, however, we do not see that the executor is in any way concerned with this phase of the matter. We also do not understand what you mean when you say, "I strongly suspect others were in on this 5 1/2 per cent."

We understand from the executor that you were most successful in conducting the sale of the coins. It is indeed unfortunate that a disagreement has arisen between yourself and Mr. Austin with respect to the latter's fee in bringing the business to you.

Very truly yours,

HGV-L

O'Brien Boardman Conboy Memhard & Early

August 8th, 1929.

O'Brien, Boardman, Conboy, Mowhard and Marly.

NY City.

Gentlemen.

Replying to yours of August 8th, the Dr.G.A.Lawrence Sale of Rare Coins, I indicated in my former letter to you the arrangement as made with Mr. von Poetticher would have been all right, viz. 20% of gross proceeds did I not have to sign under protest a contract with Mr. Wm.H. Austin, who stated he has been doing work for your concern for fifteen years., to give him 5-1/2% of the gross proceeds of my commission. When I asked him why this big commission he said he had to "take care of certain people." whatever that means. It is this sort of things that I object to, and while I gave him the full check with \$100 deduction, which he stated came out of his own commission. I think it is up to your concern to explain something about this. I am very much inclined to be fair with people and I want others to be the same with me. I didnt expect Mr. Austin to turn or assist me in getting this collection, without some allowance from my commission say \$500, but I think inasmuch as Austin did absolutely nothing besides finding me and seeing me get the collection that he never was entitled to a check for \$2500 or more, which I paid to him on this account. It just totals about \$42,000 paid out by me and my commission only \$7,000 out of which came probably \$3,500 expenses, a very poor reward considering the immense size of the gross proceeds of the sale. I dont take the view of it that you seem to do, inasmuch as you are doing business with Austin right along, according to him. It should interest you to see what sort of arrangements men make with your clients, and you should see to it that the people your agents do business with do not suffer unjustly in the premises.

I am very much disappointed and while I expect your concern to profit in any way that it deserves to profit from this settlement still I think I who did so much should also be allowed a fair commission. And it seems to me this can easily be arranged by you if you see fit to do so. I would appreciate very much if Austin could send me a check for \$500 say of this very big commission he collected from me.

Yours truly,

Preston Treasurer.

FORREST E. SINGLE
CARROLL SINGLE
ROBERT E. HILL
WILLIAM J. MAHAR

SINGLE AND SINGLE
COUNSELLORS AT LAW
15 WILLIAM STREET
NEW YORK

EUROPEAN OFFICE
LLOYD'S NEW BLDG.
LONDON, E. C. 3

CABLE ADDRESSES
FESINGLE, NEW YORK
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TELEPHONE HANOVER 8300

HORACE T. ATKINS
ALONZO L. TYLER
PAUL D. COMPTON
EDWARD J. KEANE
GREGORY S. RIVKINS
LORING R. LECRAW
THOMAS H. MIDDLETON
GEO. W. R. HUGHES
FRANK H. GERRODETTE
C. WELMORE ROBINSON

August Twentieth
1929

Estate of George Alfred
Lawrence, Deceased.
Stanford University
Our File 4807

Thomas L. Elder, Esq.,
The Elder Coin & Curio Corp.,
8 West 37th Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your communication of August 2
addressed to our client, Leland Stanford University,
with respect to the above estate, has been referred
to us for reply. We are pleased to learn of your
success in the disposition of the late Dr. Lawrence's
numismatic collection and have noted with interest
the catalogue accompanying your letter.

We regret very much that we are
not at liberty to divulge the items of information
which you have requested, as these are not matters of
public record.

This matter is being handled by our
Mr. Rivkins, who will be glad to have you confer with
him with regard to Dr. Lawrence's collection.

Yours very truly,

Single and Single

GSR-d

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

August 28, 1929.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
The Elder Coin and Curio Corporation,
8 West 37th Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Elder:

Your two letters of August 23rd,
addressed to the Secretary, have been
received. I am bringing them to the
attention of Acting President Robert E.
Swain.

Sincerely yours,

E. Fordyce.
Asst. Secretary
to the President.

ELF

New York, June 19th, 1931.

To The Asst. Comptroller,

Leland Stanford University.

Dear Sir:

Referring to your reply to my letter of some while ago, in reference to the Lawrence Sale of coins. There are aspects to this matter which are beyond my intelligence to fathom. It seems everytime I have written out there making any inquiry of any sort that my letters are at once forwarded to your "legal representatives in New York." In the very first letter I ever wrote to the University I told them I was sending them a copy of the catalogue which I compiled after much labor and effort of the Lawrence Collection, with the hope that they would place the catalog in the college library and keep it there as a token in remembrance of the late George Alfred Lawrence, a graduate of "the first class to graduate at Leland Stanford University." What they did was to forward this elaborate catalog, the work of several months on my part, to their lawyers in New York. I did not feel particularly complimented, nor have I felt so since over the way I have been regarded either by your legal representatives at this end or by those who attended to the matter at the college. In case you do not know it please allow me to tell you that I, Thomas L. Elder, was the person who realized practically every cent of assets which were subsequently produced after the death of Dr. Lawrence. On this account, if for no other I think I am entitled to a bit more consideration and better treatment than I have received through the brief, vague and non committal notes I have received from your legal representatives at this end. I verily wanted to know if the college was satisfied with my efforts and whether the whole thing came off to the satisfaction of the college which was I believe named as the sole beneficiary under the will.

The lawyers wrote me bravely and politely told me in each instance that they regretted they could not give the information I wanted to know. It is considerable of a mystery to me why all these things are so confidential. Inasmuch, as I have stated, ~~as~~ I am the one who realized practically all the money from this estate I think I should have some acknowledgment of some sort from the college, independent of the said replies from their legal representatives at this end of the line. If I am exceeding my rights why all they would have to do is for someone out there to tell me that fact.

The sale brought something over \$49,000.00. This is a nice little sum of money, and one or two things which have happened, as outlined in the first letter I wrote your college, let me to write you a word of caution. It seems to me the whole thing could be put into such poetical lines as would make interesting reading. As you stated you would write me when you found out about the matter I expect I am not exceeding my rights, or the bounds of politeness in again reminding you of the matter. And as a special favor, the man who realized all the assets for the Dr. Lawrence Estate begs that you do not send this letter to your legal representatives in New York City, as there is in my opinion nothing to be gained by so doing, as I am not trying to collect a cent of money from the college and will not attempt to do so at any time. Therefore I hope you will treat me more as a friend of the college and not one who might have some dirt up his sleeve about some... In the first place let me tell you that in writing my very first letter to you I desired to warn the college to look out for its interests. I did not expect to have your representatives at this end "investigate me" I don't need to be investigated. My reputation has been made here in the last 27 years in business, and when I render my accounts I send a printed itemized statement the same as I sent your college and the Executor for the Lawrence Estate.

Yours truly,

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

September
5th,
1931.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
No. 8 West 37th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Elder:-

I have been away for sometime, by reason of a combination of illness and vacation, and upon my return find your letters of July 14th and August 22nd.

The University greatly appreciates the interest you have taken in this matter and hopes that something really tangible will result from the sale of the Lawrence coins.

Our San Francisco attorneys are still trying to get some definite information but up until August 19th have been unable to do so. On that date they again communicated with New York and I hope that the matter will be cleared.

Yours very truly,

E. S. Erwin
E. S. Erwin,
Asst. Comptroller.

ESE:B

September 10th, 1931.

E. S. Erwin, Esqr.,

Leland Stanford University.

Dear Mr. Erwin:

I appreciated very much your efforts to give me some information about the settlement the University Received over the Lawrence Estate, of which I believe it was the sole heir.

Please try and understand my interest. In 1929 I went to a lot of work and effort to get up a very fine and expensive catalogue of this collection of Lawrence. I was informed that the amount I secured, which was a big amount, almost \$50,000 for the coins was perhaps the sole asset left of this estate. Naturally after all my effort and my breaking all the world's records for rare coins, getting \$7,900.00 for one coin I have been very much interested in knowing how the heir fared over this estate. I was very much puzzled over the attitude of certain people here who at the time were supposed to represent the University. Instead of welcoming my advice and interest they repulsed me, in fact practically insulted me by telling me that the information desired was not of public interest. I had asked for no information at all. I had simply tried to warn them against some things which certain people connected with the settlement had done which were very dubious in nature, to say the least. The last word I got at this end was from the man who appraised the estate, hired I was told by Messrs O'Brien, Boardman, Fox Penhard & Early of 39 Broadway, this city, altho Curt Von

Boetticher was the Executor. I understood Von Boetticher was a member of said law firm.

I am sending you for the Library of the University a copy of the catalog, from which you will see by prices realized and by the catalogue work how hard I worked for the success of this matter.

I am also enclosing an article I wrote for the NY SUN on George Washington, which will show you I am not merely a coin expert but know something of our history. I am a member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

If ever you hear anything more about this matter Mr. Erwin I am greatly interested. Surely nobody can blame me for this interest in view of the way it turned out and the University apparently got nothing. All I got net out of it was my commission of 14-1/2 % of the gross of over \$49,000. largely used up in my expenses. I am not fishing for more money, but I am surely interested in knowing how these people acted at this end. As the matter now stands there is room for serious doubt about the matter.

Believe me

Yours respectfully,

Frest. & Treasurer.

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER
ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

May 26th,
1933.

Mr. Thomas L. Elder,
Elder Coin and Curio Corporation,
Eight West 37th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Elder:

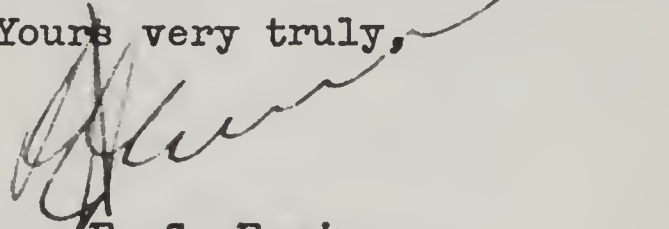
Re: Lawrence Estate

I have your very kind letter of May 22nd and I deeply regret the necessity of having to report to you that Stanford did not receive any part of the proceeds from the sale of the coin collection on which you worked so diligently.

We have recently had a report and the Estate was so involved with expenses that it took practically all of the money which was received from the sale of the coins to meet the obligations.

I hope, before the matter is finally closed out, however, we will be able to get something out of it.

Yours very truly,



E. S. Erwin,
Assistant Comptroller.

ESE:S